

Year	Per Capita Net State Domestic Product At constant (1980-81) Prices (Rs.)
1990-91	1204
1991-92	1119
1992-93	1025
1993-94	1034
1994-95	1098 (Provisional)
1995-96	1149 (Quick estimate)

[English]

Foreign Mercenaries

2240. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of foreign mercenaries working in Jammu and Kashmir to terrorise the people and the Government as a whole;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) It is a well known fact that Pak ISI has been actively involved in sponsoring, aiding and abetting terrorist and secessionist violence in J & K. For this it has continued to try and infiltrate armed and trained terrorists including, Pakistani nationals and other foreign mercenaries in J & K. It is not possible to indicate the precise number of foreign mercenaries in J & K. According to available information, 553 foreign mercenaries have been killed and 135 arrested till June 1997.

(c) Close watch is continuously kept on the activities of the militants including foreign mercenaries. The steps taken to contain terrorist activities include sustained vigilance/patrolling on the border/LOC and in the hinterland, active operations to flush out militants, establishment of pickets in vulnerable areas, strengthening and reactivation of the local Police, strengthening of the intelligence machinery, streamlining of the arrangements for coordination among the various security agencies etc.

[Translation]

Vacancies of SC/ST

2241. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of appointments made in the Department of Ocean Development during the last three years, till date, categorywise;

(b) the number out of them belong to SC/ST, category-wise;

(c) the number of vacancies reserved for SC/ST lying vacant in the Department, category-wise;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to fill these reserved vacancies; and

(e) the time by which these vacancies are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) and (b) The number of appointments made in the Department of Ocean Development and the number of SC/ST candidates appointed category-wise during the last three years is as detailed below.

	No. of appointments made	No. of SC/ST appointments
Group A	12	1(SC)
Group B Non-Gazetted	2	NIL
Group C	4	2(1 SC; 1 ST)
Group D	10	3 (SC)
Total	28	6

(c): NIL

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Rocks from Mars

2242. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been invited to the news-item captioned "Martian gift to India lies ignored" appearing in the "The Hindustan Times" dated July 10, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reasons for conducting studies on collection of rocks from MARS?